

#### SUMMARY OF NO. 15-08

This proposed law would require animal shelters to notify rescue organizations that have requested such notification at least two business days before the scheduled euthanasia of an animal and offer the rescue organization the opportunity to take possession of the animal. This requirement would not apply where the animal is seriously or terminally ill. The proposed law would also require shelters to make good-faith efforts, depending on funding availability, to have potentially dangerous animals evaluated by trainers.

The proposed law would prohibit any individual or organization from taking a cat that is abandoned, lost, stray, or born and living outdoors into custody for the sole purpose of destroying the cat. The proposed law would require shelters having custody of such cats to contact a local rescue organization registered with the state Division of Animal Health, which would have the option of taking custody of the cats. If the rescue organization declined to do so, the proposed law would require that the cats be returned to the locations where they were found or other suitable locations, but shelters would be permitted to seek suitable homes for such cats.

A fine of between \$10 and \$100 could be assessed for each violation of this proposed law.

The proposed law would take effect January 1, 2017. The proposed law states that, if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.